

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

December 22, 2019 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent


MASS INTENTIONS
 OF THE WEEK

Saturday, December 21

5:30 pm For Parishioners of St. Marks

Sunday, December 22

9:00 am For Raymond Van Hoorebeke *by Marianne & Brian Silver*

11:00 am For Chester Guzik *by Woelfel Family*

Monday, December 23

8:45 am For Hugh Sweeney *by tom Morley*

Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve

4:30 pm For Dan Salerno *by Susan Reilly & Family*

6:30 pm For Gian Earl LaPut *by Bonnie Gilles*

10:00 pm For William Pote *by Lourdes Persinger*

Wednesday, December 25 Christmas Day

9:00 am For Anita Radcliff *by Alfonso & Helen Ruiz*

11:00 am For Beverly Galtierri *by Juanito Borja*

Thursday, December 26

8:45 am For

Saturday, December 28

5:30 pm For Anna Solecki *by Solecki Family*

Sunday, December 29

9:00 am For Parishioners of St. Marks

11:00 am For Parishioners of St. Marks

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 28, 29, 2019

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Lector	Euch. Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Help Needed	Mike & Nancy Lennon	Help Needed	Help Needed

Sunday, 9:00 am

Lector	Euch. Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Help Needed	Carmen Veras	Help Needed	Help Needed

Sunday, 11:00 am

Lector	Euch. Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Tom & Sarah Hanifin	Paul & Gina Tupaczewski	Help Needed	Help Needed



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, December 23

8:45 am -----Mass

7:30 pm ----- Boy Scout Meeting

No CEC classes today

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Masses 4:30, 6:30 and

10:00 pm -----

Parish Office Closed

Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day Masses 9:00 am &

11:00 am

Parish Office Closed

Thursday, December 26

8:45 am ----- Mass

Parish Office Closed

Friday, December 27

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, December 28

8:00 am ----- Men's Bible Study

5:30 -----Mass

Sunday, December 29

9:00 am and 11:00 am



WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year	Last Year 2018
December 15, 2019:---\$2,184	December 6, 2018:\$1,743.
Retired Religious: --- \$466.25	Retired Religious-----\$450
Supermarket Gift Cards	
December 15, 2019	
Sales:----- -\$3,175	St. Mark's Faith Direct
Profit -----\$158.75	Church Code is NJ484
YTD 2019:----- \$6,070	
Number of families: -----17	

FAITH DIRECT...

During Advent we prepare our minds and hearts for the real meaning of Christmas, the birth of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. As we reflect on the upcoming Christmas season, it is likely that we will be busy with parties and family gatherings. Perhaps even a trip out of town to visit friends. With all of those joyous celebrations, we might miss Mass. That's where eGiving with Faith Direct can help simplify your life. By supporting St. Mark the Evangelist, both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season.

Signing up is easy! Visit faith.direct/NJ484, Already using Faith Direct? Log in to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God Bless You, Fr. Marcin



For the month of December

Sanctuary Lamp: In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone and Aeneas and Genevieve Corry *by Corry/Benardone family*

Altar Breads & Wine: In loving memory of Jan and Amelia Krzywosz, and Wladyslaw and Anna Skoczylas *by Skoczylas Family*

Mass Candles:

MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,

Christmas is almost here. Are you happy?? In our gathering to celebrate Sunday, the Lord's Day, we come to the final days of Advent and mark its Fourth Sunday. The Advent Wreath is ablaze with light signaling the closeness of the Solemnity of Our Lord's Holy Nativity. Do you recognize the indwelling presence of the Lord Jesus in your life?

We are all busy preparing for Christmas. A lot of preparation had to be made for the first Christmas also by Mary and Joseph. They had to prepare by saying "YES" to God's plan for the birth of Jesus. Today our Gospel focuses on the preparation made by Joseph for that first Christmas.

What gave Joseph the strength to endure all the trials his vocation brought him? It was obviously his life of prayer that gave him the strength to be obedient to God's call to him. He was a just man, a man of honor as our Gospel today tells us. He had to have been a man of deep faith to fulfill his high calling. There is no record of him being present on Calvary so we presume he had died before Jesus. We can presume that this man of faith had Jesus and Mary present with him as he died. That is the way that all people of faith would like to die, in the company of Jesus and Mary.

In 1870 Pope Pius IX declared St. Joseph Patron of the Universal Church. He said, *"in the same way that he once kept unceasing holy watch over the family of Nazareth, so now does he protect and defend with his heavenly patronage the Church of Christ."*

St. Joseph is Patron of the Church. He had to make preparations for the first Christmas, to submit to God's plan in faith. As we prepare for Christmas we can turn to Joseph asking his help so that we can prepare our hearts in faith to be worthy mangers to receive Jesus.



Many things in these days are trying to discourage Catholics from attending Christmas Mass and regular participation in worship. Believers must be strong and courageous in offering witness that the Church is our Mother, purchased by the Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is the door to eternal life.

I am asking you to assist me in extending an invitation to your family, neighbors and friends to join us at Saint Marks for the celebration of Our Lord's Birth by coming to Mass. Your presence and prayers will help strengthen us to fight against the evil forces which are among us and trying to destroy us.

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

God gave us the greatest gift of all that first Christmas, his Son Jesus. Jesus waits for you to give him a gift in return, the gift of your heart, the gift of you making room in the inn of your heart for him not just at Christmas or Easter but every day, and especially to worship him at Mass every Sunday. Jesus has done everything for you, can you do something for Jesus? Open your heart to Jesus.

"Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace". Baby Jesus, help us to be people of peace and to spread peace everywhere we go.

I look forward to seeing you all in church again for Christmas. Please do not forget, invite someone with you for Holy Mass. It may change their life!



Parish staff, priests and all employees of St. Mark's Church wish you all the best. May the peace and Joy of Christ be with you this Christmas and throughout the New Year.

Peace and joy of our Lord Jesus be with all of you!
The Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of Jesus, our patron – pray for us...

Merry Christmas!!! Do not be afraid to say it...MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

DISTRIBUTION OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

After Christmas we will not distribute the Precious Blood at all masses for winter season. Distribution of the Precious Blood will come back on Holy Thursday (It is a beautiful day to be able to receive Holy Communion under two forms).

It is winter time and flu season, and during this time some people get sick and to protect the health of our parishioners I made this pastoral decision for the good of the parish and our good parishioners. When we receive the Bread of Life we still receive the whole Jesus his Body and Blood. **It is nothing new! The same was last year and two years ago.**



Holy Masses - St. Mark:
Christmas Eve: 4:30PM, 6:30PM, 10PM
Christmas Day: 9AM, 11AM

New Year's Eve: 5PM
New Year's Day: 9:30AM

Holy Masses - OLM:
Christmas Eve: 4PM, 6:30PM, 10PM
Christmas Day: 7:45AM, 9:15AM, 10:45AM, 12:15PM

New Year's Eve: 4:30PM
New Year's Day: 10AM, 12NOON

FROM FR. JAVIER...

TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH -
THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

The Sacrament of Holy Orders

The Three Degrees of the Sacrament of Holy Orders

3. The ordination of deacons - "in order to serve"

My dear brothers and sisters, according to our tradition and the catechism of the Catholic Church at a lower level of the hierarchy are to be found deacons, who receive the imposition of hands "not unto the priesthood, but unto the ministry". At an ordination to the diaconate only the bishop lays hands on the candidate, thus signifying the deacon's special attachment to the bishop in the tasks of his diaconate.

Also, deacons share in Christ's mission and grace in a special way. The sacrament of Holy Orders marks them with an imprint "character" which cannot be removed and which configures them to Christ, who made himself the "deacon" or servant of all. Among other tasks, it is the task of deacons to assist the bishop and priests in the celebration of the divine mysteries, above all the Eucharist, in the distribution of Holy Communion, in assisting at and blessing marriages, in the proclamation of the Gospel and preaching, in presiding over funerals, and in dedicating themselves to the various ministries of charity.

Since the Second Vatican Council the Latin Church has restored the diaconate "as a proper and permanent rank of the hierarchy," while the Churches of the East had always maintained it. This permanent diaconate, which can be conferred on married men, constitutes an important enrichment for the Church's mission. Indeed it is appropriate and useful that men who carry out a truly diaconal ministry in the Church, whether in its liturgical and pastoral life or whether in its social and charitable works, should "be strengthened by the imposition of hands which has come down from the apostles. They would be more closely bound to the altar and their ministry would be made more fruitful through the sacramental grace of the diaconate."

God bless you.

Religious Education News 

SIGN UP SHEET FOR FOOD FOR ANTIOCH RETREAT...

There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering space for food items that are needed to feed our teens and adults who will be attending the Antioch Retreat on January 24-26. Your Support is greatly appreciated.



Richard Alvarez, Tony Atkins, Jamie Barone, Bob & Jeff Cheripka, Daria Cremonini, Brittany Cicchino, Carol DeAlvandres, Ann Geary, Sue Geary, Heidi L., Daniel Huntz, Suzy Ladlee, Vincent Lai, Mary McArdle, Denise Niessing, Girard Nolte, Jr., Rosemarie Picarelli, Georgette Petromelis, Christopher Popp, Tim Popp, John S, Don & Joyce Schmitt, George and Ann Senftinger, Fredrick Senftinger, Special Intention, Tracy Tobin, Christopher Zeliff



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

May the Christmas season fill your home with joy, your heart with love, and your life with laughter.

The Knights are sponsoring a bus to the March for Life in Washington, DC on January 24, 2020. To reserve a seat or more info email mike.lennon@comcast.net

Reflection for the Week

I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.
John 6:35

Become a Knight!

www.lvkofo.org



In Memory/Honor of:

Stokes, Grieve, Chamber, Totin Families, Jan & Amelia Krzywosz, Wlabyslaw & Anna Skoczylas, Leo & Dorothy Vilari, Bertha Vansikle, Stoffers Family, Joseph Callaremi, Sr., Hobbie Family, Wolowicz Family, RoseMarie Linfante, Jute Family, DelGuercio Family, Jean Redmond, Ellen & Charles Eichler, Veno Family, Hannah Magistro, Bill & Mary Kuhl, Johnny & Margaret Burke, John David Burke, Stanley Guzek, Cho Family, Ann Marie Huntz, Dave Woeste, Frank & Joy Warner, Anthony & Anna Monteverde, Thomas & Julia Dugan, Patricia Barone



ST. MARK'S NEW YEAR'S DAY 5K

Attention runners and walkers - there is still time to sign up for the St. Mark's New Year's Day 5K. Please see runsignup.com to complete your registration. Hope to see you in 2020.



Remember to shop at Smile.Amazon.com and support St. Mark the Evangelist Church. Buy your gifts and essentials at smile.amazon.com. Type in St. Mark the Evangelist Church Long Valley, NJ under "Select a Charity" Amazon donates 0.5% of your purchase to St. Mark's at no cost to you. Thank you for your support.



